September 10, 1948

Dr. Harold Jeghers,
Professor of Medicine,
Georgetown University Hospital
Washington, D.C.

Dear Dr. Jeghers:

I was very much pleased to learn about the report of another case of the syndrome in the Presse Medicale of 1946. I have the pertinent parts of the article translated and it is perfectly astounding how constant the described morphology of the pigmentation is. I have written to the journal and also the authors asking permission to reproduce the photographs of their case, and also have had prints made. The authors refer to three more possible cases of the syndrome. One of these cases was described by Dr. George H. Belote of Michigan in 1936, was presented briefly to the Detroit Dentological Society at that time. The article begins, "B. M., a boy age 12, born in the United States, complains of bleeding from the rectum and increasing weakness. - - - Epistaxis and tarry stools have been present occasionally." I am writing to Dr. Belote to find out if he knows anything more about this case.

The second suspicious case referred to by the French Authors was published in the Bulletin of the Societe Medicale des Hopitaux De Paris for 1912. The patient was an 83 year old (!) white woman on the service of Pierre Marie in the Salpetriere. The patient is described by having the exact pigmentary anomaly, and in addition the remark is made that she had for many years been subject to repeated (1 to 2/months) attacks of diarrhea. Nothing further is said about the gastro-intestinal symptomatology.

As for the third case, I have not yet been able to get hold of the journal.

The material on the Harrisburg cases is now complete. Could I write you in a week or so and plan to come over some Saturday afternoon?

Sincerely,

VAM:ars

Victor A. McKusick, M.D.